



Kevin L. Faulconer
Mayor

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: June 28, 2017

TO: Honorable Myrtle Cole, Council President
Honorable Councilmembers

FROM: Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer *Kevin L. Faulconer*

SUBJECT: Appointments and Reappointments to the Human Relations Commission

It is my pleasure to appoint Ms. Samantha Hurst, Mr. Hanif Mohebi, and Ms. Sandra Rodriguez; and reappoint Ms. Jessica Nare, Mr. Dion Brown and Ms. Shana Hazan to the Human Relations Commission.

Ms. Hurst is an Associate Project Scientist at the University of California, San Diego Department of Family Medicine and Public Health. She specializes in cross-cultural medicine and community-based treatment strategies. Ms. Hurst's research collaborations have spanned practices including neurology, psychiatry, behavioral health, health policy and many others. She has collaborated on projects working with a diverse number of cultural groups and international populations, from American Indian, and Australian Aborigine, to East African refugees and U.S. combat veterans. Ms. Hurst received her doctorate degree in anthropology from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. She received her master's degree in anthropology and her bachelor's degree from San Diego State University.

Mr. Mohebi is the Executive Director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations. He has worked to significantly increase income and media exposure, develop stronger relations with various community leaders and expand membership. His work effects more than 120,000 Muslim-American community members from diverse ethnic backgrounds through a variety of community programs including know-your-right workshops, youth empowerment programs and leadership forums. Mr. Mohebi has received many honors including proclamations from both the City of San Diego and members of Congress, as well as a resolution for outstanding leadership from the State Board of Equalization. He received his bachelor's degree in communication studies from San Jose State University with a minor in globalization and social justice, and has completed a pre-doctorate program through San Diego State University.

Ms. Rodriguez is a community organizer for Mid-City Community Advocacy Network and is a candidate for a master's degree in public administration and Latin American studies. As a community organizer she has led residents to form two juvenile justice reform campaigns

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which develop new school programs and court programs focused on restorative justice theories. In the past she has worked alongside the Director of the Bi-National Center for

Human Rights on data collection efforts to research the illegal arrests of repatriated Mexican citizens, and conducted ethnographic research on youth gangs in Oaxaca, Mexico.

I am confident each of these individuals will bring invaluable experience and expertise to the Human Relations Commission and I would like to thank them for their willingness to serve in this capacity.

KLF:fb

cc: Honorable Mara Elliott, City Attorney
Andrea Tevlin, Independent Budget Analyst
Liz Maland, City Clerk